



# DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

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## MORE FUNDS SENT FOR CAMBODIAN REFUGEES

NEW YORK -- The Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief has disbursed an additional \$105,000 to several agencies which are involved in relief efforts on behalf of Cambodian refugees.

Recipients of the funds are Heifer Project International, UNICEF, Meals for Millions, and Church World Service.

This disbursement brings the total contributions by the Presiding Bishop's Fund to \$917,300 since the Cambodian appeal was begun late last year.

The Fund has sent \$25,000 to Heifer Project International, the first time that agency has received support for Cambodian relief from the Episcopal board. The grant will be used to support a program of vaccination and disease control for draft animals. The Episcopal Church's check for that program is in support of Heifer Project's first year program of \$177,000 as initiated in the Kandal Province in Cambodia. The vaccination and disease control program for draft animals is considered "vital in preparing fields for rice cultivation and basic transportation in the rural sector," according to Terry Ford, Heifer Project's executive director. What is needed in Cambodia, he said, is food production as well as food relief.

Mr. Ford said that Kandal Province "has the greatest density of draft animals with approximately 55,000 head of oxen and buffalo needing veterinary attention."

Other recipients of the relief funds released in late April are designated for UNICEF, \$15,000; Meals for Millions, for seed kits, \$5,000; and Church World Service, the relief agency of the National Council of Churches, \$60,000. The Church World Service funds will be split for border area famine, \$20,000, and Action for Relief and Rehabilitation in Kampuchea (ARRK) projects for relief of famine, \$40,000.

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On other occasions the Presiding Bishop's Fund has responded to the famine in Cambodia by making funds available to OXFAM and the relief agency of the World Council of Churches.

In a letter of appreciation to those who have responded to the special Cambodian appeal, the Rev. Samir J. Habiby, director of the Fund, wrote that Church World Service, and its director, Dr. Paul McCleary, report that the small December harvest in Cambodia is almost gone and that the country will be more dependent than ever on imported food. Citing the problems of the Phnom Penh port and Kampong Som harbor, Dr. McCleary said that "alternative means of importing food and relief supplies are being actively explored."

Father Habiby pointed out that the Cambodian appeal is one of three which are currently being promoted by the Presiding Bishop's Fund. The other two are the \$1.25 million Uganda Appeal for reconstruction work in that liberated African country, and the All Africa Refugee Appeal.

In addition to the Fund's refugee program, there is commitment to a program of disaster relief and short-term development.

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#### PICTURE CAPTION

# 80159      Migration -- people on the move -- has become an acute problem for persons all over the world, especially in southeast Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean in more recent days. Many of them are "boat people," but countless other displaced persons, such as the Cambodians seen above, set out on foot, carrying their limited belongings on their shoulders and heads. Contributions to the Episcopal Church's Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief (815 Second Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10017) bring needed assistance to such displaced persons. (Photo Credit: OXFAM America).

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